(ii) As Legislative exercise is currently underway to provide for a quasi judicial mechanism to regulate content on TV channels including that of adult TV programme.

Telecast of Olympic event

†387. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the legitimate right to telecast Olympic events was exclusively given to Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some private news channels have exceeded the time limit of agreement for the telecast of Olympic events;

(c) if so, whether Government would recover the amount for the excess time from these private news channels; and

(d) if so, to what extent and by when?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that private channels have used Olympic footage extensively.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that action to effect recoveries, wherever due, has been initiated by them.

DTH service

388. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has finalized the rules and regulations for Doodarshan's DTH service;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the objectives thereof; and

(c) by when Doordarshan is likely to start satellite transmission in Ku Band to enable the viewers to receive 30 TV channels free to air, with the help of dish antenna and a Set Top Box?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Ku-band transmission project of Doordarshan was approved by the Government in November, 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 164.35 crores. The primary objective of Doordarshan's

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ku-band project is to provide TV coverage to areas, not covered by terrestrial transmission.

(c) Test transmission in Ku-band with a bouquet of 30 TV channels (17 DD channels & 13 private free-to-air channels) and 12 Radio (AIR) channels has already commenced. It is possible to receive KU band signals in the entire country, except andaman & Nicobar Island with the help of a Ku-band receiver system. It is to be formally launched.

Vulgarity on Cable TV and print media

389. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have devised any action plan or code of conduct for checking vulgarity on cable TV network and print media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 prescribe that no programme shall be carried through Cable TV Network, provided it conforms to the Programme and Advertisement Codes as defined in the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. The Programme and Advertisement Codes cited, *inter alia*, prohibit vulgarity through cable T.V. network. The Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the said Act to look into the violations of the Codes. Cognizance of any violations of the Codes is taken either *suo-moto* or on receipt of specific complaints by the Committee. Besides, any authorized officer under the aforesaid Act is empowered to prohibit any cable operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel if it is not in conformity with the prescribed codes. A meeting is also proposed to be held shortly with stakeholders including women organizations, educations, consumer organisation with broadcasters, cable operators organisation etc., so that the matter can be sensitized on these issues.

As regards print media, the Press in India is free from Government control. In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the Press, the Government does not interfere with its functioning. However, the Press Council of India is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with the twin object of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and